

(Washington, DC) Today, Congressman Alcee L. Hastings (D-Miramar) made the following statement regarding the upcoming 2011 hurricane season, which begins on June 1, 2011:

"With hurricane season rapidly approaching it is never too early to begin planning. Experts are predicting an active hurricane season for 2011, posing significant danger for our communities. Consequently, it is critically important that all Floridians adequately prepare for the possibility of a severe storm. With June 1st fast approaching, we must ensure that we take the necessary steps to be ready in the event a hurricane makes landfall.

"I am continuing to work closely with federal, state, and local agencies, as well as with my colleagues in Congress, to ensure that the necessary resources are in place to expeditiously respond to a natural disaster. In particular, I have continued to push for much-needed reform as it relates to prioritizing power restoration, debris removal, placing generators at gas stations, and ensuring temporary housing is available to those who are displaced.

"Please feel free to call my Ft. Lauderdale office at 954-733-2800 or West Palm Beach office at 561-881-9618 with any concerns or questions that you have regarding this hurricane season as well as visit my official web site at www.alceehastings.house.gov , where I have provided [additional information and resources to help you with this year's hurricane preparations](#) ."

Below please find some emergency numbers which may be helpful as you prepare for hurricane season:

- FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) Registration: 1-800-621-FEMA (3362)
- State of Florida Emergency Information 24-hour hotline (FEIL): 1-800-342-3557
- State Volunteer and Donations Hotline: 1-800-FL-HELP1 (1-800-354-3571)

- American Red Cross: 1-800-HELP-NOW (1-800-435-7669) or Assistance 1-866-Get Info (1-866-438-4636)
- Florida Department of Elder Affairs: 1-800-96-ELDER (1-800-963-5337)
- Florida Power and Light: 1-800-4-OUTAGE (1-800-468-8243)
- Florida Department of Financial Services Storm Helpline: 1-800-22-STORM (1-800-227-8676)
- Attorney General Bondi's Gouging Hotline: 1-866-966-7226
- Agricultural and Consumer Services Price Gouging Hotline: 1-800-HELP-FLA (1-800-435-7352)

Congressman Alcee L. Hastings serves as Senior Member of the House Rules Committee, Ranking Democratic Member of the U.S. Helsinki Commission, and Democratic Chairman of the Florida Delegation.

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